Domestic Violence

Objective

Know and understand the definition of Domestic Violence as defined in UCMJ

Develop an understanding for the role the JFHQ SARC has regarding domestic violence awareness and response within the respective state

Understand the dynamics of domestic violence and a context of the phenomena from the victim and abuser perspective.

DoD Domestic Violence Policy

Domestic violence will not be tolerated in the Department of Defense.

Domestic violence is an offense against the values of the military services of the United States of America.

Commanders at every level have a duty to take appropriate steps to prevent domestic violence, protect victims, and hold those who commit it accountable.

What is Domestic Violence?

- **An offense that involves the use, attempted use, or threatened use of force or violence against a person of the opposite sex, or a violation of a lawful order issued for the protection of a person of the opposite sex.**

Who Does Domestic Violence Involve?

Those who may be involved in domestic violence include:

A current or former spouse, Persons who share a child, and current or former intimate partner with whom the abuser shares or has shared a common domicile.

Domestic Violence Includes:

- **Coercive control and or threatening behavior including terrorizing behavior (threats to children, pets, property)**
- **Physical assault or threat of physical violence with or without a weapon.**
- **Stalking**
- **Sexual assault, threat of sexual assault or coercing a partner to engage in undesired sexual activity**

Domestic Violence Includes:

- **Obstructing a partner from receiving medical services**
- **Intentional neglect by refusing or obstructing a mentally/physically incapacitated spouse from receiving appropriate social, mental, or medical services.**

Examples of Physical Abuse

- Physical force that causes physical injury to another.
- Pushing, slapping, punching, kicking, or biting
- Inflicting bruises, welts, lacerations, fractures, burns, or scratches.
- Strangling or assaulting with weapons

Emotional Abuse

- A pattern of acts or omissions that adversely affect the psychological well being of an individual.
- Threats of harm to victim, children, and pets
- Extreme jealousy and possessiveness
- Name calling, constant criticizing, insulting and belittling
- Isolating tactics, economic, medical, or other restrictions.
- Arguments alone are not sufficient to substantiate emotional maltreatment.

Emotional Abuse Statements May Include:

- "If you leave, I will kill myself!"
- "No one will ever want you!"
- "You are FAT/UGLY!!!"
- "If I can't have you, NO ONE will!"
- "If you leave me, I will burn your parent's house down!"

- "If you leave, you will never see the kids again!"
- "You make me do this
- "You are obligated to have sex with me!"
- "I will kill myself if you leave me!"
- "You are worthless!"

Possible Characteristics of a Victim

- **In all socio-economic, educational, racial and age groups**
- **History of family violence**
- **Low self esteem**
- **Feeling of powerlessness**
- **Lacks Trust**

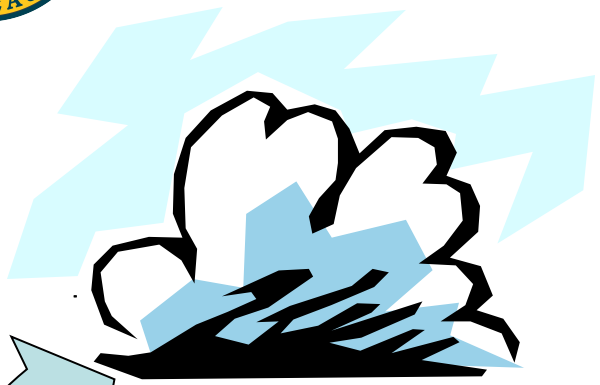
- **Unable to relax, poor sleep habits**
- **Takes blame for problems**
- **Guilty feelings**
- **Peace keepers and care givers**
- **Usually females**
- **Depression or suicidal behaviors**

Possible Characteristics of an Abuser

- **Family History of Abuse**
- **Extreme Jealousy**
- **Controlling Behavior**
- **Isolation**
- **Blames Others for Problems**
- **Dr. Jekyll and Mr./Ms. Hyde Personality**
- **Alcohol or drug abuse**

- **Hypersensitivity**
- **Cruelty to Animals or Children**
- **Uses Force During Sex**
- **Verbal Abuse**
- **Breaking or Striking Objects**

CYCLE OF VIOLENCE

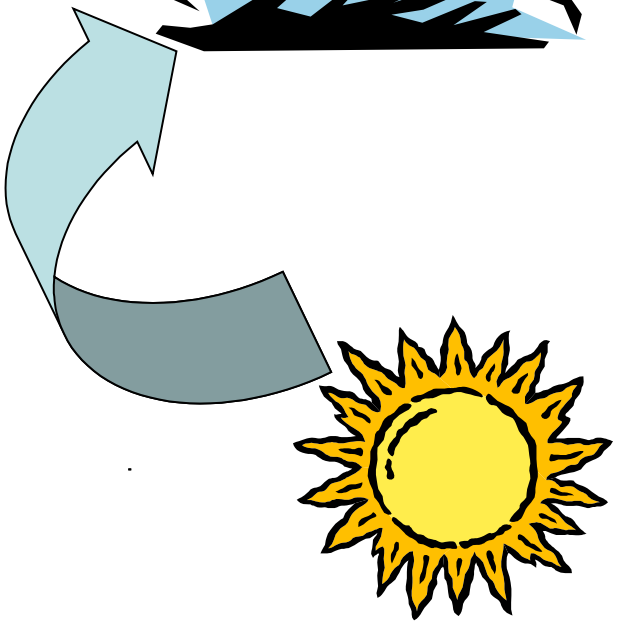


1. TENSION

Increased anger, blaming and arguing

2. BATTERING

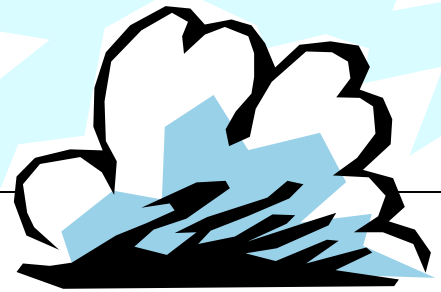
Hitting, slapping, kicking, choking,
use of objects or weapons.
Sexual abus Verbal threats and abuse.



3. HONEYMOON

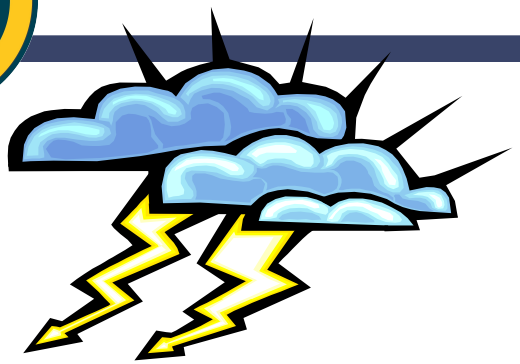
The abuser may deny violence, say he/she was drunk, and

Tension Phase

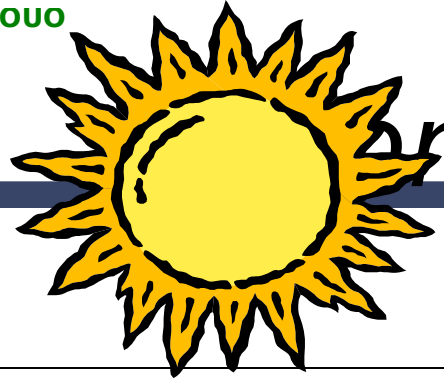


- Abuser starts to get angry and abuse may begin
- There is a breakdown of communication
- Tension becomes great
- Victim feels like they are “walking on egg shells”
- Victim feels the need to keep abuser calm

Battering phase



- Abuse occurs, emotional, physical, or sexual
- The abuser may increase control over money, restrain partner, destroy property, and/or the phone
- The victim may experience shock/fear, try to protect self and children, call for help, try to leave, pray for abuse to stop, and/or do what is necessary to survive



Honeymoon Phase

- The abuser becomes affectionate, asks for forgiveness promising the violence will not happen again
- The abuser states they will no longer drink alcohol or use drugs and they will go to counseling
- The victim forgives the abuser, feels hopeful, blames self and minimizes or denies the violence
- At the same time, the abuser may feel they taught the victim a lesson

Restricted/Unrestricted Reporting

A Victim may make a restricted report to a Victim Advocate or health care professional at an active duty installation

If the victim tells anyone else (except Chaplain) about the abuse, the report is no longer restricted.
Restricted means it is not reported to Command or law enforcement

Commander/First Sergeant may not accept a restricted report.

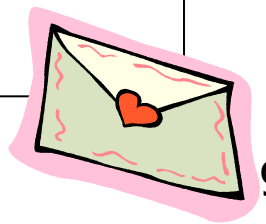
Typical Stalking Law

- Stalking
  - A person commits the offense of stalking when he or she follows, places under surveillance, or contacts another person at or about a place or places without the consent of the other person for the purpose of harassing and intimidating the other person.

  A person who commits the offense of stalking is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Aggravated Stalking

- A person commits the offense of aggravated stalking when the violation of a temporary restraining order, temporary protective order, permanent restraining order, or permanent protective order is violated



IF THERE'S VIOLENCE IN THE HOME, THE KIDS GET THE PICTURE
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
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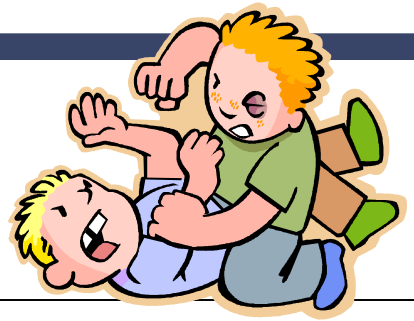
Family Violence Act

- If a child is within ear shot or eye sight of a domestic violence dispute, not only is there an assault charge, there may also be a cruelty to children charge.

Possible Affects of Domestic Violence on Children



- Serious problems with temper tantrums
- Continual fighting at school or between siblings
- Lashing out at objects
- Cruel or abusive to animals
- Threats of violence
- Models abuser's behavior

Possible Short-term Effects on Children

- Failure to thrive – age regression
- Injuries from trying to protect parent
- Withdrawal from family and friends
- Poor school performance - fighting
- Use of drugs and alcohol - pregnancy
- Running away

RESPECT

R – Respect each other's feelings, friends, opinions

E – Exercise your listening skills

S – Support each other's goals and dreams

P – Practice sharing responsibility

E – Exhibit honesty and accountability

C – Compromise, rather than sacrifice

T – Treat each other as equals

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